

*DELAWARE EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES OVERSIGHT
COUNCIL*

MEETING MINUTES

February 15, 2017

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Robert Stuart, Delaware State Fire School, Classroom 5 in Dover. Those in attendance were as follows:

Council Members

<i>Ted Walius</i>	<i>DVFA</i>
<i>Colin Faulkner</i>	<i>Kent County EMS</i>
<i>Ross Megargel</i>	<i>State EMS Medical Director</i>
<i>Glenn Luedtke</i>	<i>Sussex County Member at Large</i>
<i>Larry Tan</i>	<i>New Castle County EMS</i>
<i>Alan Robinson</i>	<i>Fire Prevention Commission</i>
<i>Kara Walker</i>	<i>DHSS</i>
<i>Wayne Smith</i>	<i>Delaware Healthcare Assoc.</i>
<i>Matthew Pragg</i>	<i>DSP Aviation (Alt.)</i>
<i>Kate Groner</i>	<i>DE ACEP (Alt.)</i>
<i>Maria Diaz</i>	<i>EMSC</i>
<i>Dana Bowerson</i>	<i>Practicing Paramedic</i>

Council Staff

<i>Diane Hainsworth</i>	<i>OEMS</i>
<i>Jacki Poore</i>	<i>OEMS</i>

Guests in Attendance

<i>Karyl Rattay</i>	<i>DHSS</i>
<i>Steve Blessing</i>	<i>EMSPS</i>
<i>J. Allen Metheny</i>	<i>DVFA</i>
<i>Jillian Austin</i>	<i>EMSPS</i>
<i>Britany Huss</i>	<i>EMSPS</i>
<i>Sarah Davis</i>	<i>DEMA</i>
<i>Kevin Bristowe</i>	<i>SCEMS</i>
<i>Warren Jones</i>	<i>DVFA</i>
<i>Alex Kuhn</i>	<i>American Heart Assoc.</i>
<i>Tyler Owens</i>	<i>Christiana Care</i>
<i>Karen Terzaghi</i>	<i>EMSPS</i>

I. INTRODUCTION

DEMSOC members, staff and guests introduced themselves.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes from the October 12, 2016 meeting were reviewed and approved.

III. PUBLIC HEALTH PREPAREDNESS UPDATE

Steve Blessing reported that they are beginning the grant writing process with both the PHEP and HPP grants. With both they are working on an Infectious Disease Plan.

He stated that the work on the PHEP side focus is on mass care and bringing other divisions together. They are looking at doing a full scale SHOC exercise and a Mass care Table Top. One of the planning initiatives is the Family Assistance Center, which is where families can go to get information on loved ones who may have been affected by a mass casualty incident.

He stated that Mercedes Rooks, a senior planner for the office, has resigned. The office is in the process of hiring a senior planner.

Diane Hainsworth reported that the work on the HPP side is active in the Stop the Bleed campaign. They are in the process of finalizing a state training program with focus on training the public. They are in the process of purchasing a mannequin for the training program. They will be participating in DAFB large scale mass causality drill. They are looking to take data from the exercise to use to build a med surge exercise in the near future. They are also in the process of updating the med surge plan.

She reported on the Hospital Evacuation Drill held in October 2016, there were some improvement points but as a whole the exercise was a success.

IV. NEW BUSINESS

1) 2016 DEMSOC Report

Diane Hainsworth reported that OEMS is looking for individual agency reports by February 27, 2016. They are looking for updated pictures for the report.

This year's report will include information from the NHTSA review that took place in May 2016. OEMS has created a spreadsheet of recommendations, with comments, from the NHTSA review which took place in 2004, 2010, & 2016. Diane asked that the group review the document, and prioritize items to move forward. What does the group feel are the most important items and what items may not work for our state?

Chairman Stuart asked for recommendations to be discussed at the next meeting in May.

VIII. OLD BUSINESS

1) Agency Reports

Sussex County

The Sussex County EOC currently has no vacancies.

Rehoboth 911 Center relocation: The Rehoboth 911 Center relocated its personnel and operations to the Sussex County 911 Center in Georgetown effective Monday, 9/21/15. The City of Rehoboth is constructing a new multi-purpose complex that will include a new 911 Center, Police Department and Conventions Center. The estimated completion date is early fall of 2017.

Smart911: The County continues to promote its new high-tech tool designed to give first responders critical information about those in need when seconds count. Smart911™ is an online service that allows any Sussex County resident to create a Safety Profile for his or her household, and pre-load information in that profile should someone ever need to call 9-1-1. The service, which is voluntary and free to use, is unique in that it allows users to control their information. This travels with them wherever they may go in the United States, so long as another jurisdiction uses the Smart911™ program. The service is available at www.smart911.com. Smart911™ is especially helpful for people with specialized conditions, those with young children, or who utilize mobile phones. Mobile phones, unlike home or business phones, do not have physical addresses associated with them. This could potentially cause delays to response and treatment. To date, over 3,600 Sussex County residents have created profiles in the Smart911 database.

PulsePoint: The County is in the process of implementing PulsePoint. PulsePoint is a program that uses a specialized application, via GPS, to identify first responders and community members who know CPR within a ¼ mile of a cardiac arrest. Furthermore, using PulsePoint AED, the application can identify a known AED in a public environment and have a trained provider respond as well. The goal is to use the power of the CAD system to reach out to trained bystanders, and those with AED's, to respond to cardiac arrest calls in an effort to increase a victim's chances of surviving a cardiac arrest.

Storms: Winter is in full swing and the Sussex County EOC is ready for the remainder of the 2016/2017 Winter Storm season while continuing to pre-plan for the upcoming hurricane months.

Sussex County EMS

Personnel: They currently have six vacancies. They are actively recruiting for new employees. Specifically, out-of-state candidates, as well as in-state graduates from DTCC and other local and regional training centers.

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Reorganization: Sussex County EMS has reorganized and they now have two divisions, Operations and Administration. Robbie Murray is the new Deputy Director of Operations and Jeff Cox is the new Deputy Director of Administration. They also have two new Shift Commanders, Jay Shine and Mark Sheridan, who are in charge of day-to-day operations of the department. Rob Mauch is their new Manager of Quality and Standards, and Ed Engdahl is our new Education Coordinator. Additionally, Greg Eyler is the new Field Training Officer Supervisor. They have a host of new P2's, 3's, FTO's and Supervisors.

Paramedic Station 104/100: They are in the final stages of constructing their new combined Supervisor/Paramedic Station on Plantations Road between Five Points and Rt. 24. The new station will be similar, but larger, to their new stations in Ocean, View, Long Neck and Laurel, and will house Paramedic Unit 104 and the East District Supervisor, EMS 100. This new facility will replace their current rented space on Rt.1 and should be completed by May 31, 2017.

CARES Registry: Sussex County EMS continues to participate in the CARES Cardiac Arrest Registry. In 2016, their Utstein Survival rate for cardiac arrest witnessed by bystander and found in a shockable rhythm by EMS was 25%. The CARES average for this same survival criteria is 27.5% and the national average for all EMS Systems remains much lower. Their high survival rate is impressive considering their rural response area. SCEMS attributes this to widespread LUCAS device deployment and a seven-year dedication to high performance CPR, as well as a system wide push to improve cardiac arrest survival. They have seen an increase in the frequency of bystander CPR performance. This is attributed to their continued public outreach teaching hands only CPR and the continued efforts of the 911 dispatchers to provide pre-arrival CPR instructions.

Special Events: They are gearing up for another busy special events season again this year. They expect to participate in or support between 150 and 200 events again this year. They will be participating in several emergency preparedness drills, as well as providing paramedic coverage for multiple events throughout the year.

HazMat: Sussex County's HazMat Team responded to the James T. Vaughn Correctional Center to support Kent County and New Castle County's overall response to the potential needs caused by the prison riots. The Team also responded recently to a chemical explosion at Mountaire in Selbyville that seriously injured one worker and participated in decontamination related activities.

Heroin Overdoses: They have and continue to see an increase in heroin overdoses this year. This may be attributable to batches of heroin reported to be mixed/cut with Fentanyl, among other dangerous ingredients. The number of "saves" from these overdoses has been significant. In 2016, SCEMS responded to 440 overdoses where Narcan administration was necessary.

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Phoenix Banquet: Their annual Phoenix Banquet to recognize and honor our EMS providers and survivors will be held on Saturday, April 15, 2017, at 6:30 p.m. at Milton Volunteer Fire Department. The Sussex County Ambulance Association and Sussex County EMS will honor 6 cardiac arrest survivors and more than 100 providers and citizens. The ceremony recognized those who participated in what the American Heart Association calls the “Chain of Survival” for a victim of cardiac arrest with a successful outcome. This includes early notification by 911 dispatchers with instructions on how to perform CPR, early CPR and early use of an Automated External Defibrillator (AED), followed by early advanced care and transport to a cardiac care facility.

EMS Awards Ceremony: On Saturday, June 11, 2016, SCEMS held its annual EMS Banquet to recognize and honor our EMS providers and EMS partners at Indian River Fire Company in Oak Orchard. It was great to see all of the providers from ALS and BLS get together to recognize the accomplishments of those receiving wards for their efforts.

Mobile Integrated Healthcare (MIH): They have initiated talks with Beebe Medical Center regarding MIH. They have spoken with the OEMS. Through the partnership with Beebe it is their hope to determine if there is a need that can be beneficial to each citizen of Sussex County. Their goal is to seek permission for a pilot program that is cost neutral to both the state and county. If they elect to move forward with MIH we will present a formal proposal.

Rescue Task Force (RTF): They completed Rescue Task Force Level 2 training with Ocean View Police Department (OVPD) last June. OVPD hosted the training and several other municipalities from the surrounding area participated. All of their paramedics participated in the four-hour long training that focused on providing EMS care in the warm zone of an active shooter incident. A state-wide task force has been assembled that is looking at identifying a standard for training and a standardized approach to carrying RTF equipment and supplies.

Training & Education: They switched to the Air Traq video laryngoscope system-wide after undergoing initial training in the fall during our cadaver lab continuing education day in November. The paramedics received refresher training in January in advance of the launch of the new Air Traq video laryngoscopes. Additionally, they used pig tracheas for our advanced airway training sessions in October where they practiced needle cricothyrotomies, a low frequency but high-risk procedure. Many of their paramedics were also able to attend advanced pediatric training conducted in collaboration with expert providers at Nemours/AI DuPont Hospital for Children.

Sussex County Member-At-Large

Glenn Leudtke presented a poster on ambulance safety that NHTSA put out with data from 1992-2011 on crashes, injuries, and deaths. He recommended that everyone view the poster which can be found at EMS.gov.

He stated that although there are new ambulance designs available, we still need to update the current ambulances that are still in service.

The group expressed their concerns about interfacility agencies using lights and sirens at red lights.

Kent County

Colin Faulkner reported that their biggest challenge is staffing. They currently have 5 vacancies, plus a couple out on extended leave. With the staffing issues it is possible that staff are working doubles and triples with sometimes working 36 hours without going home. He stated that right now the only way to get out of the doubles and triples is to close a station, they are working feverishly to prevent that. Currently they are looking at out-of-state candidates.

They have 2 major events coming up, Nascar and Firefly.

EMSC

Maria Diaz reported that their next Advisory Committee Meeting in Tuesday, February 21, 2017.

She reported that their 2 free standing emergency department's submitted applications for consideration as Level 4 facilities within their pediatric emergency care facility recognition program. They have reviewed the applications and are scheduling site visits, which they hope to have completed in March.

Last week they completed their 5th pediatric skills course for Delaware EMS providers with assistance from OEMS. The courses have focused on ALS and BLS, based on feedback from those courses, Nemours has opened a new course specifically for BLS providers. That course is scheduled for April 6, targeting agencies from DE, PA and NJ.

They have a pediatric transport and prehospital skills course on May 18, which targets paramedics.

She stated that any information on the courses can be found at pedsuniversity.org.

Medical Direction

Ross Megargel reported that Del Tech is having their CoAEMSP site visit next week, February 21-22, 2017.

He gave a standing orders update. They initiated paramedic standing orders on Nov. 1 and BLS standing orders on Jan. 1. There were a number of corrections to the paramedic standing orders, they held a meeting on March 11 to make corrections. There will need to be an ALS Standards Committee meeting held before sending the document to BMLD for approval.

They put out an approach to Medical Aid Units and doctor's offices in response to complaints of how medics were interacting with Medical Aid Units. The document states all patients are created equal, but if there are 2 patients of equal illness,

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one a home and one in a Medical Aid Unit, the patient at home will be dispatched first.

He reported that DE had 3 papers presented at NAEMSP. One on albuterol utilization, one on aircraft utilization and trauma systems, and one on the base station course, and how efficient resident and pediatric fellow us of the radio is.

They have a new staff member working on new ImageTrend data processing, who will be running queries and pushing them out to the medical directors.

OEMS

Diane Hainsworth reported that the office currently has 2 full time positions open. One is the Training Administrator and the other is a RNIII that will coordinate the Statewide Stroke System.

She reported on the Delaware drug monitoring initiative. She passed out a document created through the efforts of the DIAC, Division of Forensic Sciences, OEMS, and DESAM. They took part in a workshop with the National Governors Association on the importance of the ability to share information. The document is the first product put out with information available at this time, they hope to have all of the 2016 data by March 15 and from that point on the document will be sent out quarterly within 45 days after the end of the quarter.

She also passed out the memo from Dr. Megargel in regards to heroin abuse and opioid crisis. With the HAN going out on carfentanyl, the memo states the importance of first responders wearing the proper PPE.

The next Stroke System of Care Committee meeting will be held on March 22, 2017. The purpose of that meeting will be to start looking at a path forward, defining who will lead the group and committee structure.

She reported that ImageTrend is still beta testing the new platform. They are working on the contract between the state and ImageTrend which will cover the rest of FY17 and FY18 then they will have to go to RFP. They completed a test with Sussex County in regards to the push for the CARES system, the test was successful however it can't be launched until the contract is complete.

Public Health

Dr. Karyl Rattay reported that they are focused on the heroin & opioid drug abuse initiative. They are looking for ways to reach overdose patients, as not all patients are at a hospital. She stated that they are currently overhauling the go to place for treatment resources, helpsherede.com. They are making it more user friendly, they hope to be able to talk more about at the next meeting. They welcome any feedback from the group.

DSP

Matthew Pragg reported that the state currently has four aircraft, 2 Bel429's and 2 Bel407's. They are looking to replace the 407's with 429's. Possibly could trade in the 2 407's to get 1 429, nothing is confirmed yet.

Currently they have 4 medics which will be able to retire soon, as well as one who is 52, DSP has a mandatory retirement age of 55.

New Castle County

Paramedic Academy Class: Chief Tan reported that the 11 personnel in the Paramedic Academy Class are in the final stages of their education. They successfully completed their comprehensive final examinations, and are preparing for the National Registry Paramedic exams. The National Registry cognitive exam will be taken this month, with the practical exam being taken in March. Once completed, the candidates will be submitted to the State EMS Office for approval to begin the field certification process to become Delaware paramedics.

Four (4) “ready-medics” (already certified candidates) are in the field certification process to become Delaware paramedics. Two of the candidates have moved to the final phase of the certification process.

Annual Sudden Cardiac Arrest Survivor’s Reunion: New Castle County EMS will be hosting the 5th Annual Sudden Cardiac Arrest Survivor’s Reunion on March 1st at 6:30 pm. The event will be held at the Laird Performing Arts Center at The Tatnall School. New Castle County has documented five consecutive years of improved sudden cardiac arrest survival rates through the CARES Registry.

Delaware Resuscitation Academy: New Castle County EMS will host the 2017 Delaware Resuscitation Academy on March 23-24 at the Embassy Suites Hotel in Newark. The event has been approved for 12.0 hours of CEU credit by the State EMS Office. Chief Tan thanked the New Castle County Fire Chief’s Association for their support of the event, which made it possible to offer the program without charge to the attendees. Information regarding the Resuscitation Academy is available on the New Castle County EMS website (www.nccde.org/ems). Information packets will also be distributed through OEMS.

PulsePoint App Implementation: New Castle County is moving toward the test phase of implementing the PulsePoint app. The app provides notification of CPR-trained individuals that are near a potential cardiac arrest incident. The estimated time to go live with the app is approximately 3 months. PulsePoint also offers the capability of an integrated AED registry that will show app users the closest AED to an incident with a photo of the device.

State Active Shooter/Violent MCI Working Group: All three ALS agencies are participating in a working group with fire service, law enforcement and EMS representatives to develop a standardized response plan for an integrated response to a violent MCI situation. The term “violent MCI” may be used to include active shooters, knife-wielding attacks, detonation of improvised explosive devices (IED), etc. The intent is to have a coordinated response that permits

faster EMS access to victims, while maintaining an acceptable level of safety for the EMS providers.

Automatic Data Reporting to CARES Registry: New Castle County is working with OEMS to establish automatic export of sudden cardiac arrest data from the DEMRS patient care reporting system to the CARES Registry. Sussex County has beta-tested the automatic export, which should make implementation in New Castle County easier. OEMS reported that movement beyond the test phase will not be possible until the contract between the state and ImageTrend is renewed.

DVFA

Warren Jones reported that they have their Joint Finance Committee hearing next week. One of the items on the agenda is the protective vests, they were successful in getting funding last year for the vests, and they are hoping to keep that funding into this year.

Fire Commission

Alan Robinson reported that they have a meeting next Tuesday, February 21 at 9am. He stated that their new investigator position has been a big help with investigations and hearings.

VIII. PUBLIC COMMENT